



STRAIGHT A's vs. LOCAL "FLEXIBILITY"

As the chart printed below demonstrates, there are significant differences between Straight A's which was dropped by the Committee and the Local Flexibility (sometimes called Local A's) that was included in H.R. 1 as passed by the Committee.

Specifically, under Local Flexibility

1. A local school district does not escape a single federal rule, regulation, or reporting requirement.
2. Since a school district can only transfer up to 50% out of any of the four programs covered by Local Flexibility, each and every school district still has to operate and comply with every single federal program.
3. The worse a local school district is performing, the less flexibility it receives.

In short, Local Flexibility only provides local school districts partial authority to transfer a limited portion of funds between programs, rather than escaping the burdensome federal regulations.

	STRAIGHT A'S	LOCAL "FLEXIBILITY"
WHO DOES IT APPLY TO?	All 50 States, school districts can apply if state doesn't	All local school districts
WHAT IS INCLUDED AND HOW CAN IT BE USED?	Most of Title I funding is available for reform. & Almost 100% of funding for many ESEA programs can be used for any type of education reform	Title I funds are <u>NOT</u> available for reform. & 50% of funding from 4 ESEA programs (Teachers, Innovative Programs, Safe & Drug Free Schools, and Technology) may be intermingled among the 4 programs or added to Title I Only 30% of funding from 4 ESEA may be intermingled among the 4 programs or added to Title I <u>if a school district is identified as needing improvement</u> 0% of funding may be intermingled <u>if a school district is identified as failing</u>
FEDERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS	Reforms must be consistent with state law and there is substantial freedom from federal regulations	No flexibility from federal regulations.